



6th January 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Governors' Newsletter – January 2017

We are delighted to report that Lowbrook Academy was ranked the 2nd highest performing state primary school in the country in the recent Telegraph performance tables. Lowbrook has been amongst the top 100 state primary schools for 5 years running and has been exceptionally high performing for over a decade. Both achievement and progress of children being outstanding for all age groups and across all subjects. Put into perspective, 100% of Lowbrook children attained the expected standard compared with 53% nationally; 45% of Lowbrook children's attainment was high in all areas compared with 5% nationally; and progress across all subjects above the top 7% nationally.

The children continue to enjoy a number of diverse and exciting sporting and creative opportunities both within school but also as part of the extensive after school clubs programme. Many children have had the opportunity to represent their school at sporting events. The introduction of themed weeks such as Sports Week, Book Week, Science Week and Arts & Culture Week has further enriched the rounded education the children experience.

When Mr Rooney was appointed as Headteacher in October 2004, Lowbrook Primary School was a very different school. The number of pupils on roll was 97 and the achievement of pupils fell well below that of other schools in the Borough. The school building itself was run down, with all classrooms being open plan. Through his vision for the school, Mr Rooney has driven up standards and created an educational environment where children thrive. In addition to this, in his Executive Principal role, he has led Holy Trinity through a rapid period of improvement with the school moving from an OFSTED rating of 'requires improvement' to 'outstanding' over a period of two years.

Mr Rooney has fought hard to secure funding for building projects across Lowbrook over the years (from the Lowbrook Suite to the Cricket Pavilion) and has project managed them himself, frequently during school holidays. This includes recently securing funding to expand the school, adding a further 5 classrooms and a new sports hall, allowing more local families to benefit from the excellent opportunities Lowbrook has to offer. The school will soon welcome parents to a presentation of the vision for the school's building programme which once completed, will welcome a double intake at each school year and provide a sustainable facility for current and future Lowbrook pupils.

As governors, we are aware that an outstanding educational provision does not happen without the dedication, commitment and tireless work of our Executive Principal, Mr Rooney and his highly skilled team. It is this underpinning ethic, which allows our children to become Happy, Healthy, High Achievers.

Yours faithfully

Dominique Du Pre
Chair of Governors